



Title: I, Payroll/Personnel Manual

Chapter:

Bulletin: Title I, 06-01, Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA)

Date: January 19, 2006

To: Holders of the Payroll/Personnel Procedure
Personnel User Groups
Agency Personnel Offices

This bulletin supercedes Title I, 05-33, Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA), dated December 22, 2005. Although the information from Bulletin 05-33 is still correct, this bulletin provides more detail on the FICA and Medicare percentages and amounts.

Effective January 1, 2006, the wage base for FICA increased. Beginning with salary payments for Pay Period 25, 2005, the maximum amount of annual earnings subject to social security withholdings and the maximum amount paid by the employee increased as described below. The National Finance Center (NFC) will automatically withhold these taxes based on the new wage base. No action on the part of the employee or the personnel office is necessary.

FICA Employees

The FICA rate remains 7.65 percent. Of the 7.65 percent, the 6.2 percent social security portion will have a maximum annual earnings amount of \$94,200 with a maximum amount paid by the employee of \$5,840.40.

The 1.45 percent Medicare portion of FICA does not have a maximum annual earnings or a maximum amount paid by the employee. All earnings subject to Medicare withholdings will be subject to the 1.45 percent rate.

Medicare Only Employees

The Medicare rate remains 1.45 percent. The 1.45 percent Medicare portion of FICA does not have a maximum annual earnings or a maximum amount paid by the employee. All earnings subject to Medicare withholdings will be subject to the 1.45 percent rate.

Inquiries

For questions about NFC processing, contact the Payroll Operations Branch at 504-255-4630 .

for

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